

Attacking IoT, a viable business

- **Ransom model**
 - Stall manufacturing
 - Immobilise expensive items (e.g. your car)
 - ...
- **Competitive advantage**
 - Collecting R&D, manufacturing data
 - Disturbing production line
- **Indirect**
 - Cheap robot for DDoS
 - Easy entry point



Understanding the risks

Developer

- Fix all possible weaknesses
- Deactivate possible users errors
- LTS assumed for free

Back Hat

- Only need one security hole
- Can be help by careless users
- Good long term business opportunities
- Good international network



Security fundamentals

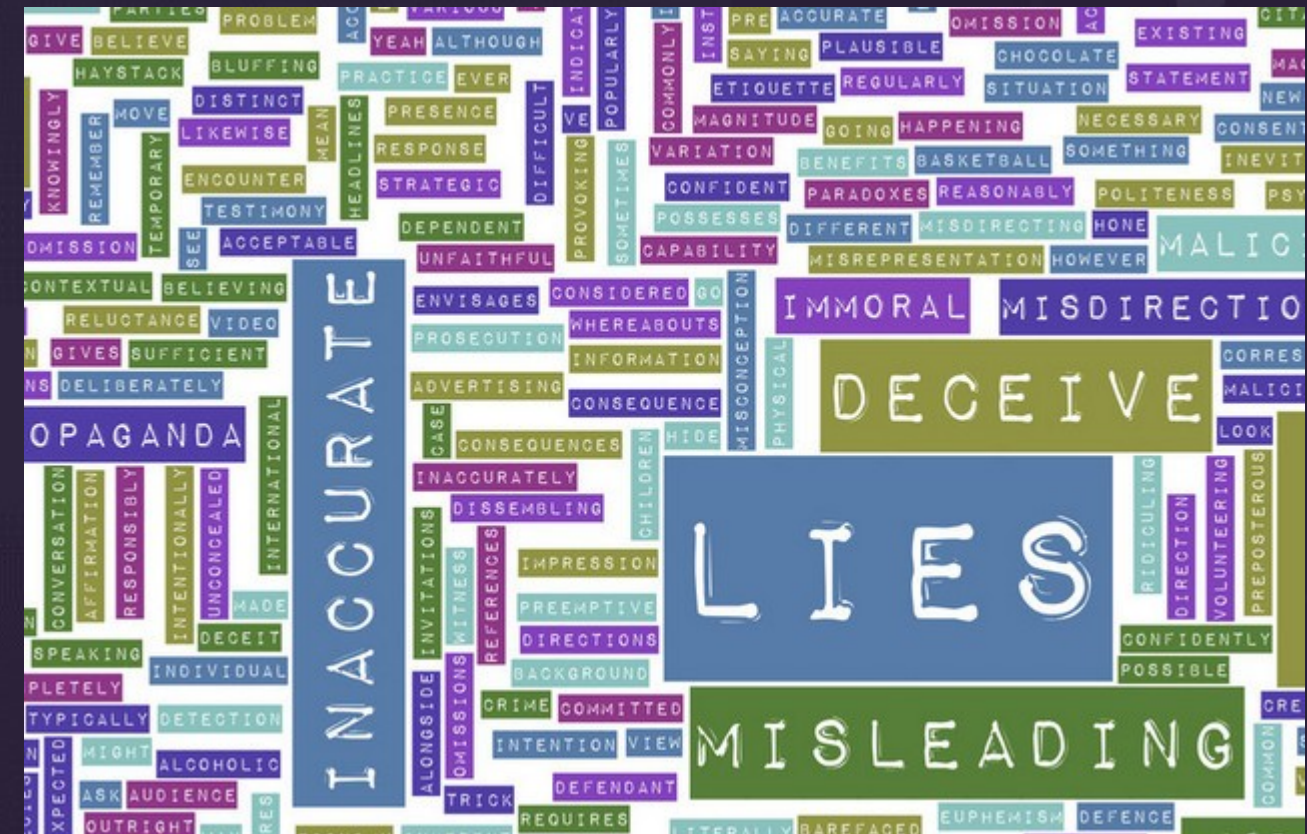
- Minimise surface of attack
- Control the code which is run
- Provide a bullet proof update model
- Track security patches
- Use HW security helpers when available
- Limit lateral movement in the system
- Develop and QA with security turned on
- Do not rely on human but on platform and tools



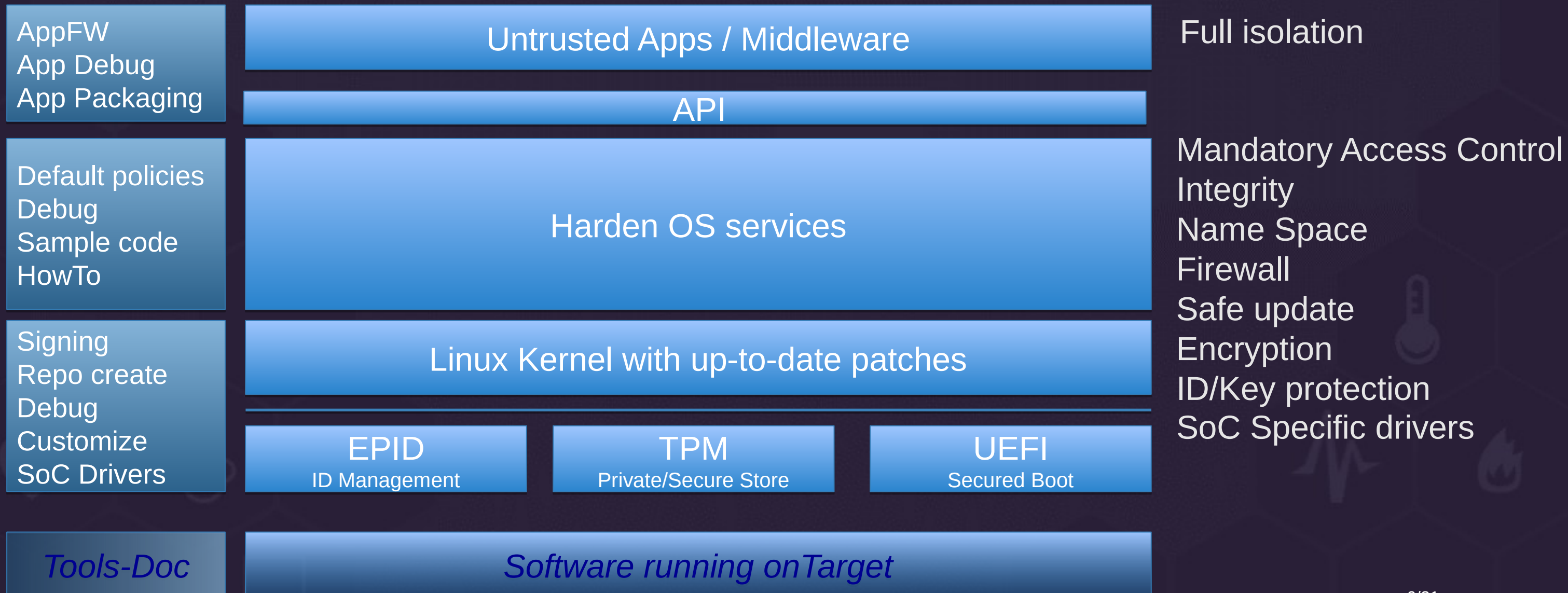
Security cannot be added after the fact

Do not rely on human

- **Security experts are out of reach**
 - 9M Mobile Developers
 - 8M Web Developers
 - 0.5M Embedded Developers
 - How many Embedded Security Developers ?
-
- **Human are unreliable**
 - We do not have the time now
 - Oups, it's too late to change it
 - No one is interested by our system
 - We are too small
 - ...

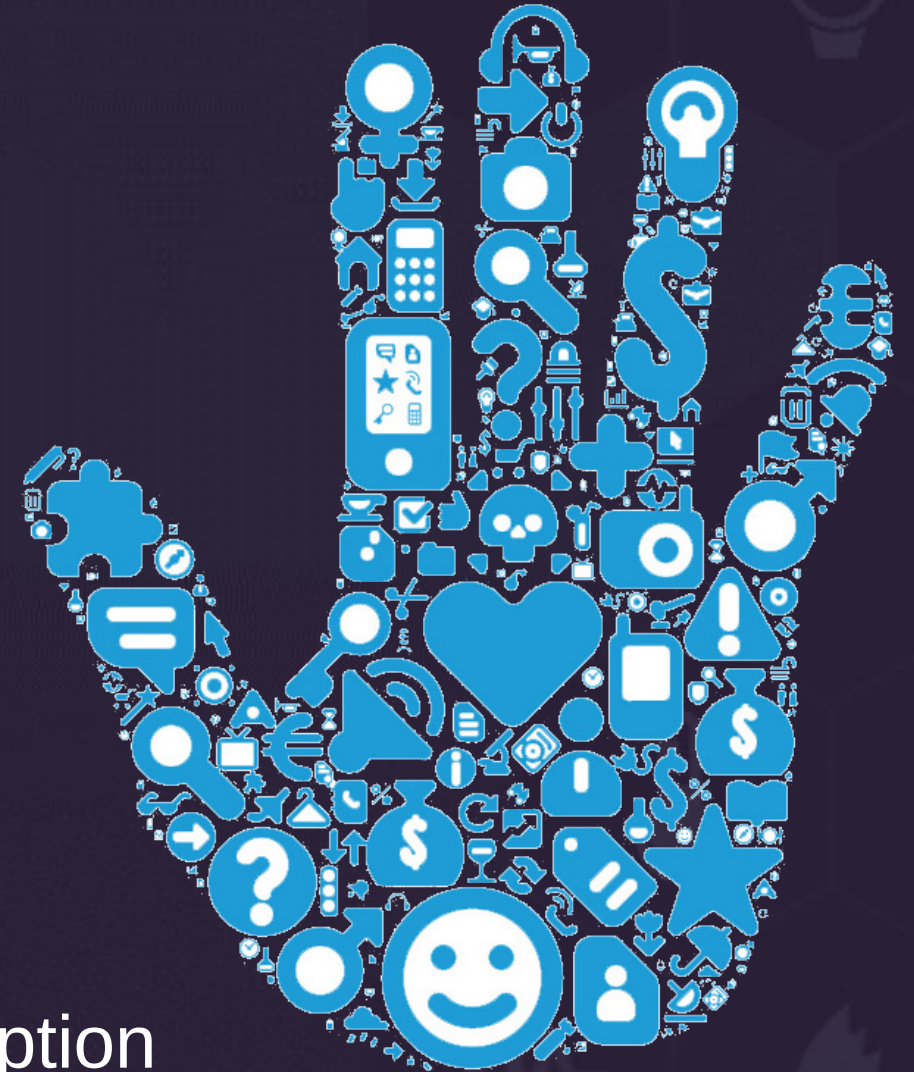


Concepts are Known but what about implementation?



Know who/what you trust

- **Trusted Boot : a MUST Have Feature**
 - Leverage hardware capabilities
 - Small series & developer key handling
- **Application Installation**
 - Verify integrity
 - Verify origin
 - Request User Consent [privacy & permissions]
- **Update**
 - Only signed updates with a trusted origin
 - Secured updates on compromised devices are a no-go option
 - Factory reset built-in from a trusted zone
 - Do not let back doors opened via containers
 - Strict control of custom drivers [in kernel mode everything is possible]



Layered Architecture

➤ **Client/UI (untrusted)**

- Risk of code injection (HTML5/QML)
- UI on external devices (Mobiles, Tablets)
- Access to secure service APIs [REST/WS]

➤ **Applications & Services (semi-trusted)**

- Unknown developers & Multi-source
- High-grain protection by Linux DAC & MAC labels.
- Run under control of Application Framework: need to provide a security manifest

➤ **Platform & System services (trusted)**

- Message Services started by systemd
- Service and API fine grain privilege protection
- Part of baseline distribution and certified services only



Bullet proof update and ID

Update is the only possible correction

- Must run safely on compromised devices
- Cannot assume a know starting point

Compromised ID / keys has no return

- Per device unique ID
- Per device symmetric keys
- **Use HW ID protection (e.g. EPID)**

Non reproducibility

- Breaking in one device cannot be extended
- Development I/O are disabled
- Root password is unique (or better a key)
- Password cannot be easily recalculated



A practical example (AGL)

The image features a green-tinted background with a wireframe car and binary code. The text 'Automotive Grade Linux (AGL)' is prominently displayed in white. Below it, a description of the project is provided. The overall aesthetic is technical and futuristic.

Automotive Grade Linux (AGL)

A Linux Foundation project dedicated to creating open source software solutions for automotive applications.

Applicable to any Industrial IoT Linux

Service isolation



Run services with UID<>0 SystemD is your friend

- Create dedicated UID per service
- Use Linux MAC and Smack DAC to minimise open Access

Drop privileges

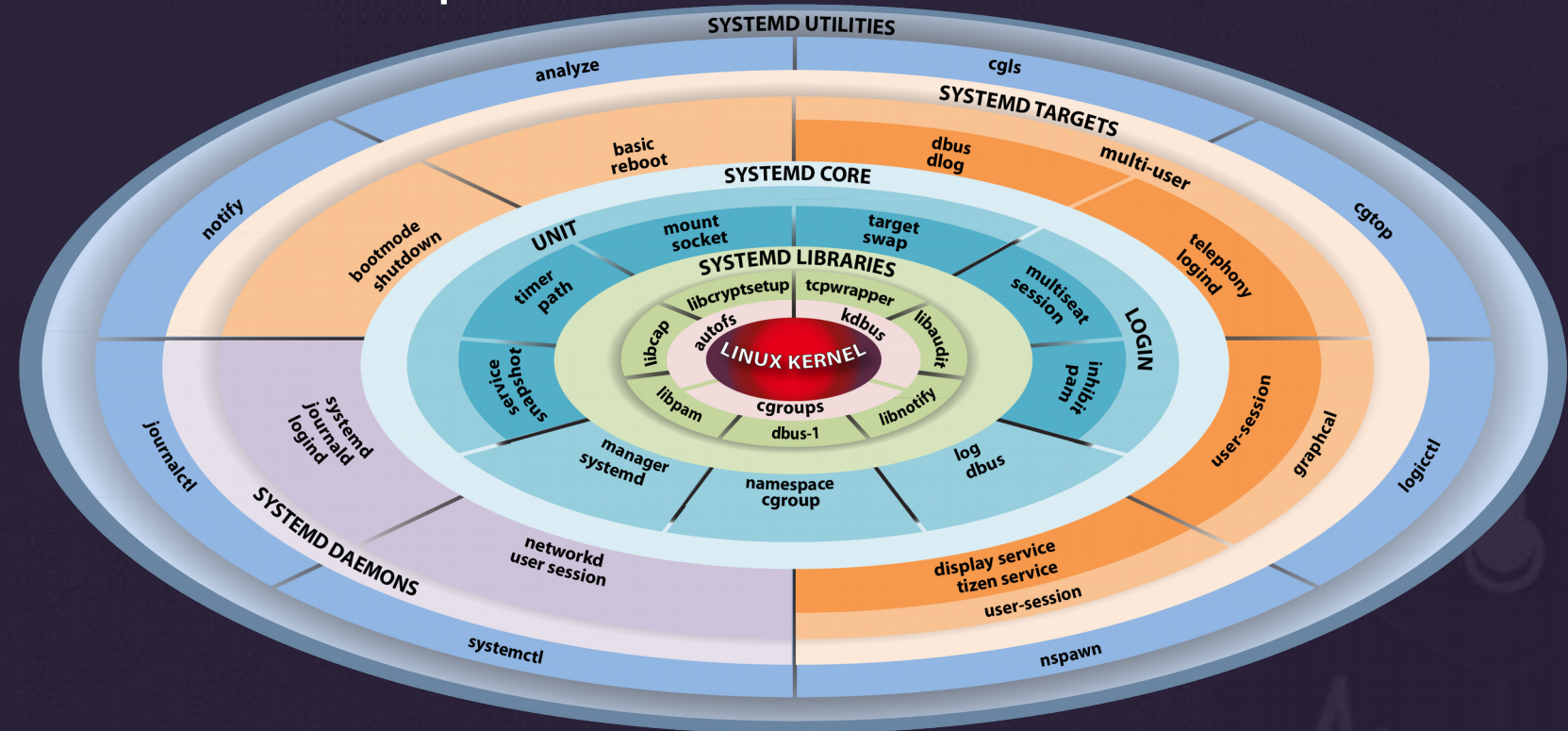
- Posix privileges
- MAC privileges

C-goups

- Reduce offending power
- RAM/CPU/IO

Name Space

- Limit access to private data
- Limit access to connectivity



<https://www.kernel.org/doc/Documentation/cgroups/cgroups.txt>

<https://www.kernel.org/pub/linux/libs/security/linux-privs/kernel-2.2/capfaq-0.2.txt>

<http://man7.org/linux/man-pages/man7/namespaces.7.html>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mandatory_access_control

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Discretionary_access_control

Segregate Apps from OS

➤ Application Manager

- One system daemon for application live cycle installs, update, delete
- One user daemon per user for application start, stop, pause, resume
- Create initial share secret between UI and Binder
- Spawn and controls application processes: binder, UI, ...

➤ Security Manager

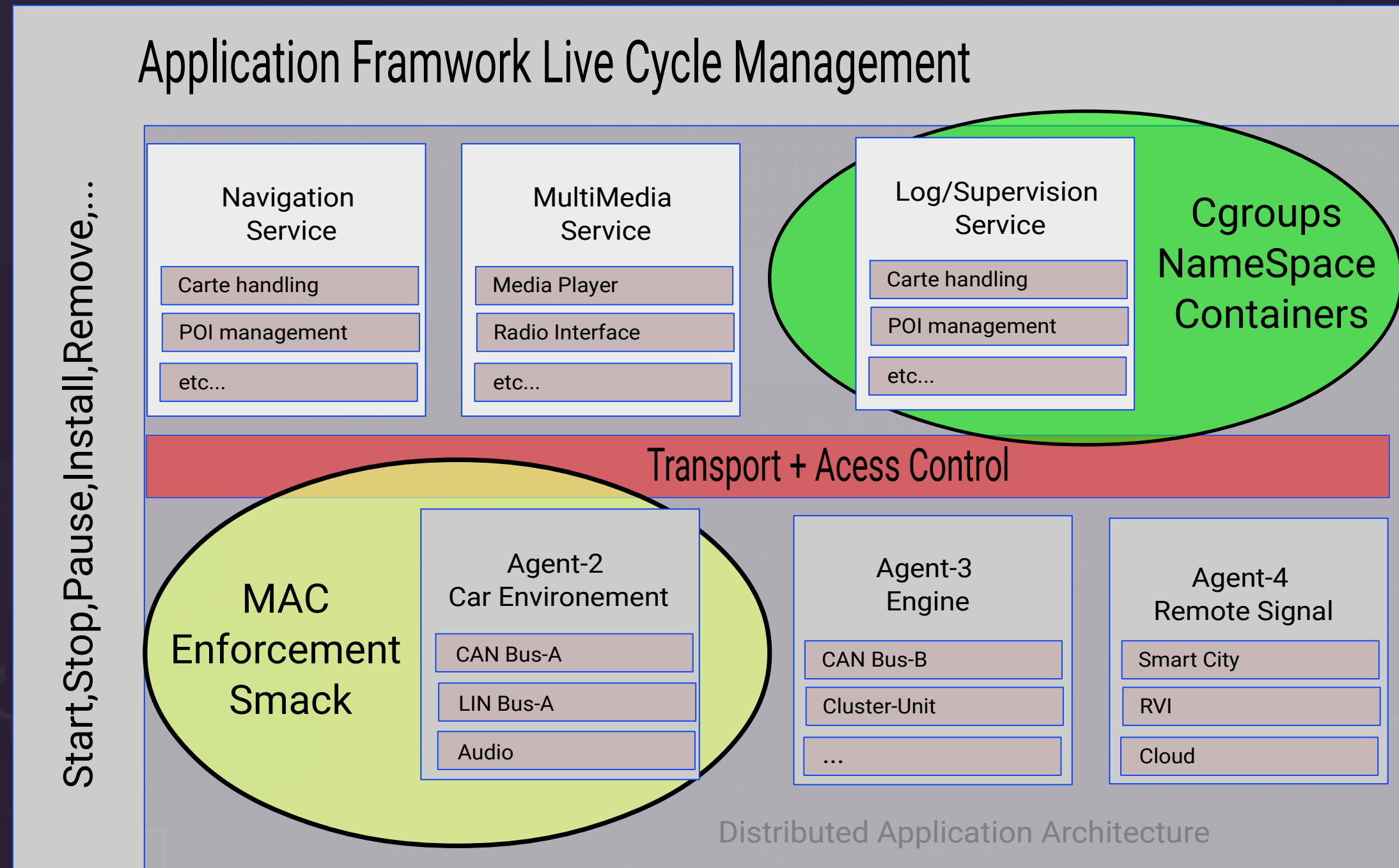
- Responsible of privilege enforcement
- Based on Cynara + WebSocket and D-Bus for Legacy)

➤ Application & Services Binders

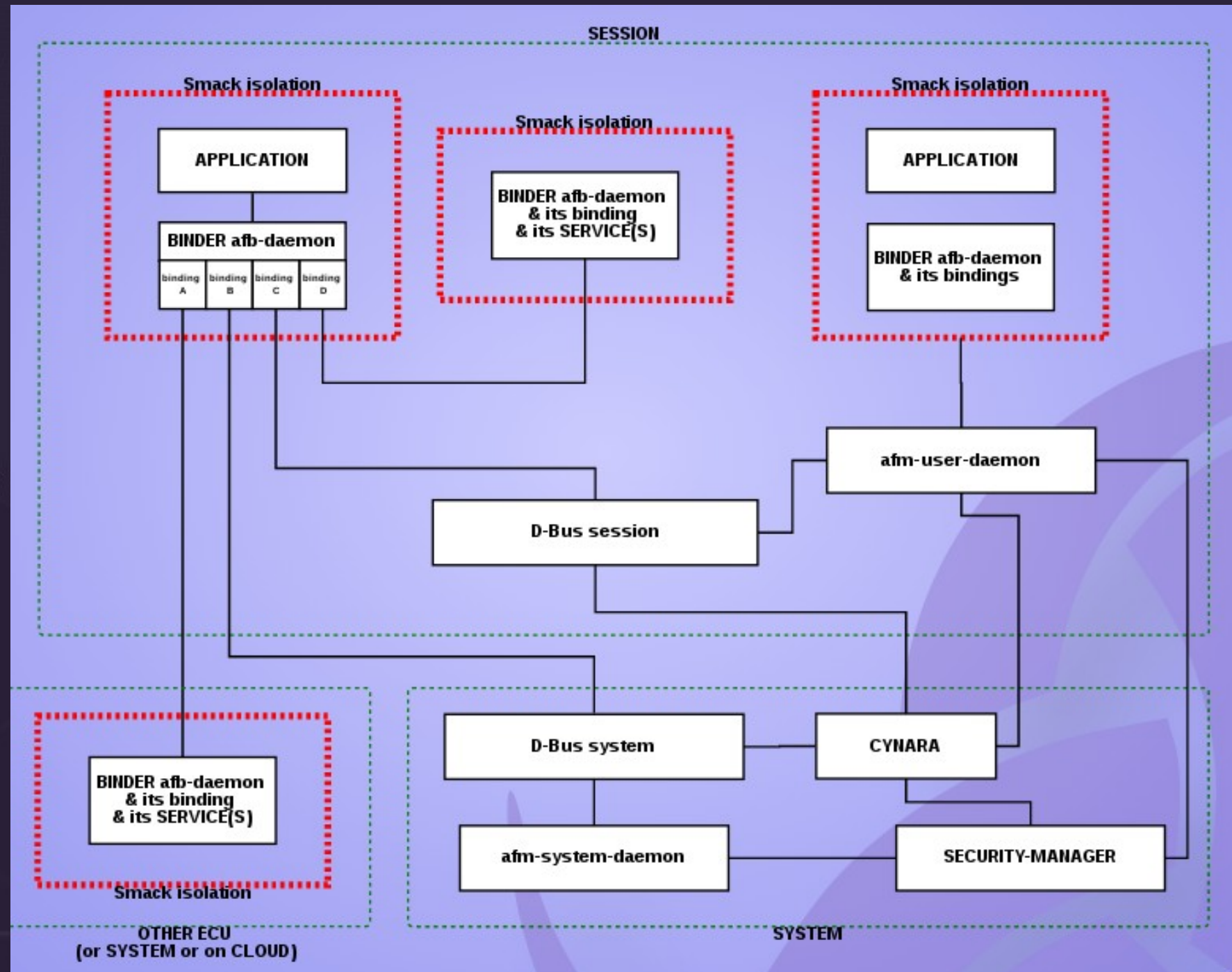
- Expose platform APIs to UI, Services, Applications
- Loads services/application plugins :Audio, Canbus, Media Server...
- One private binder per application/services [REST, WebSocket, Dbus]
- Authenticate UI by oAuth token type
- Secured by SMACK label + UID/GIDs
- AppBinders runs under user \$HOME



AGL2 Application Security



AGL2 AppFW logic



To write an App

➤ Write back-end binding

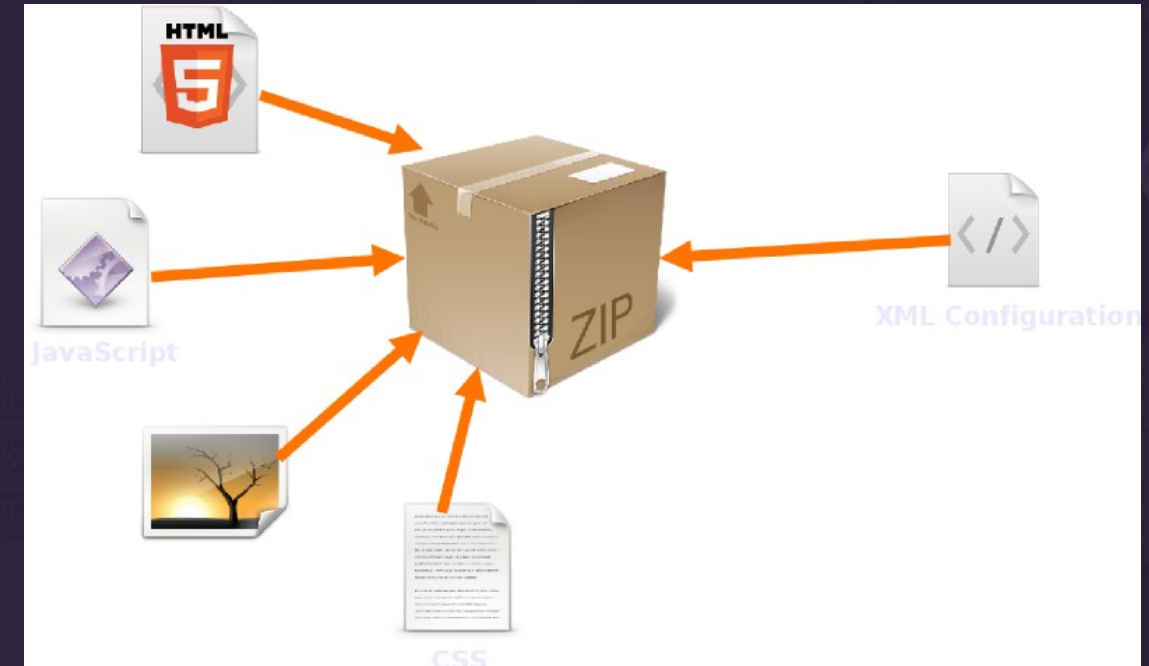
- Adds the specialised API to the system
- Accessible by Web Socket or slow legacy D-Bus
- Run in its own security domain
- Can be cascaded

➤ Write the Front end

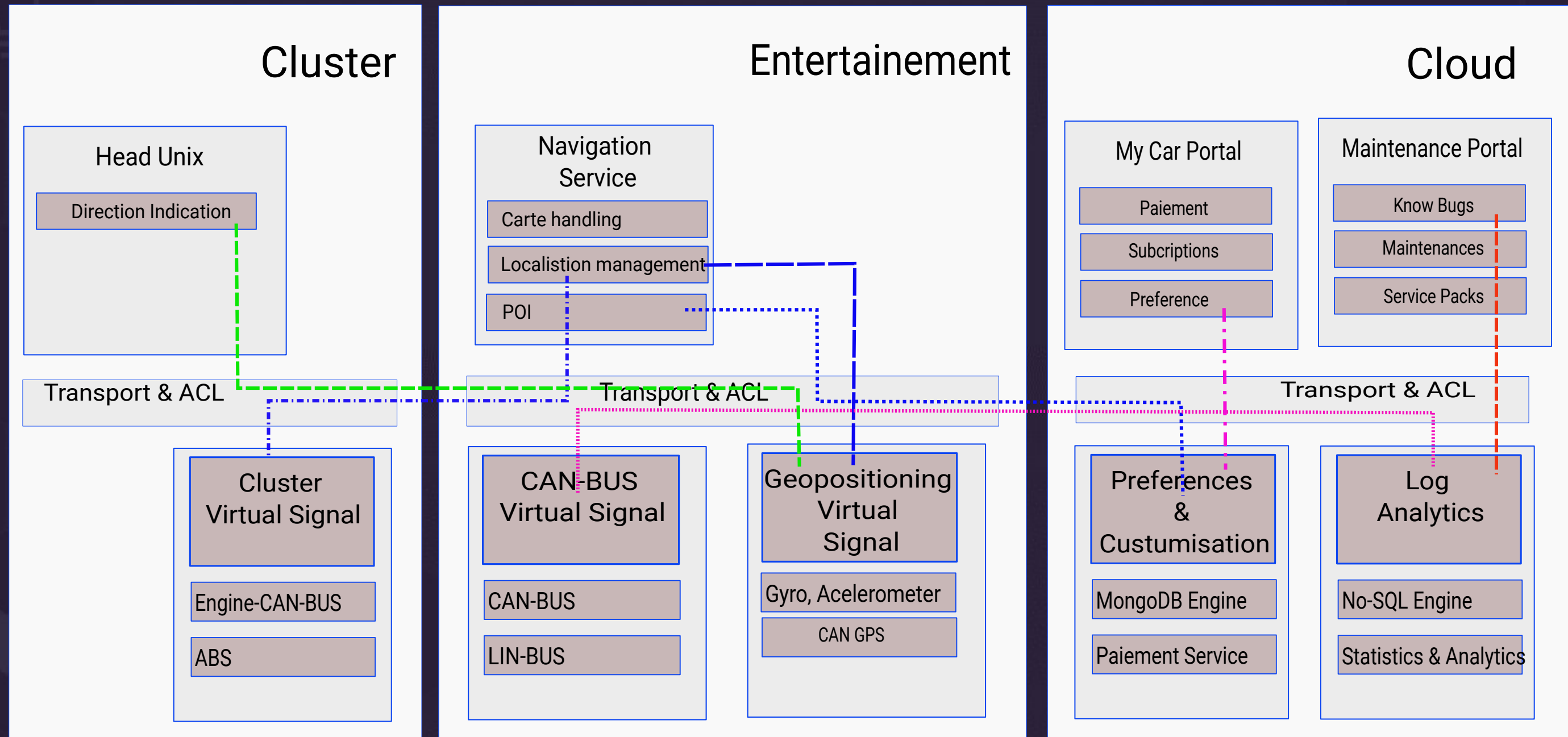
- Typically in HTML5, QML but open to any
- Connect to back-end binding using REST with secured key (OAuth2)
-

➤ Package

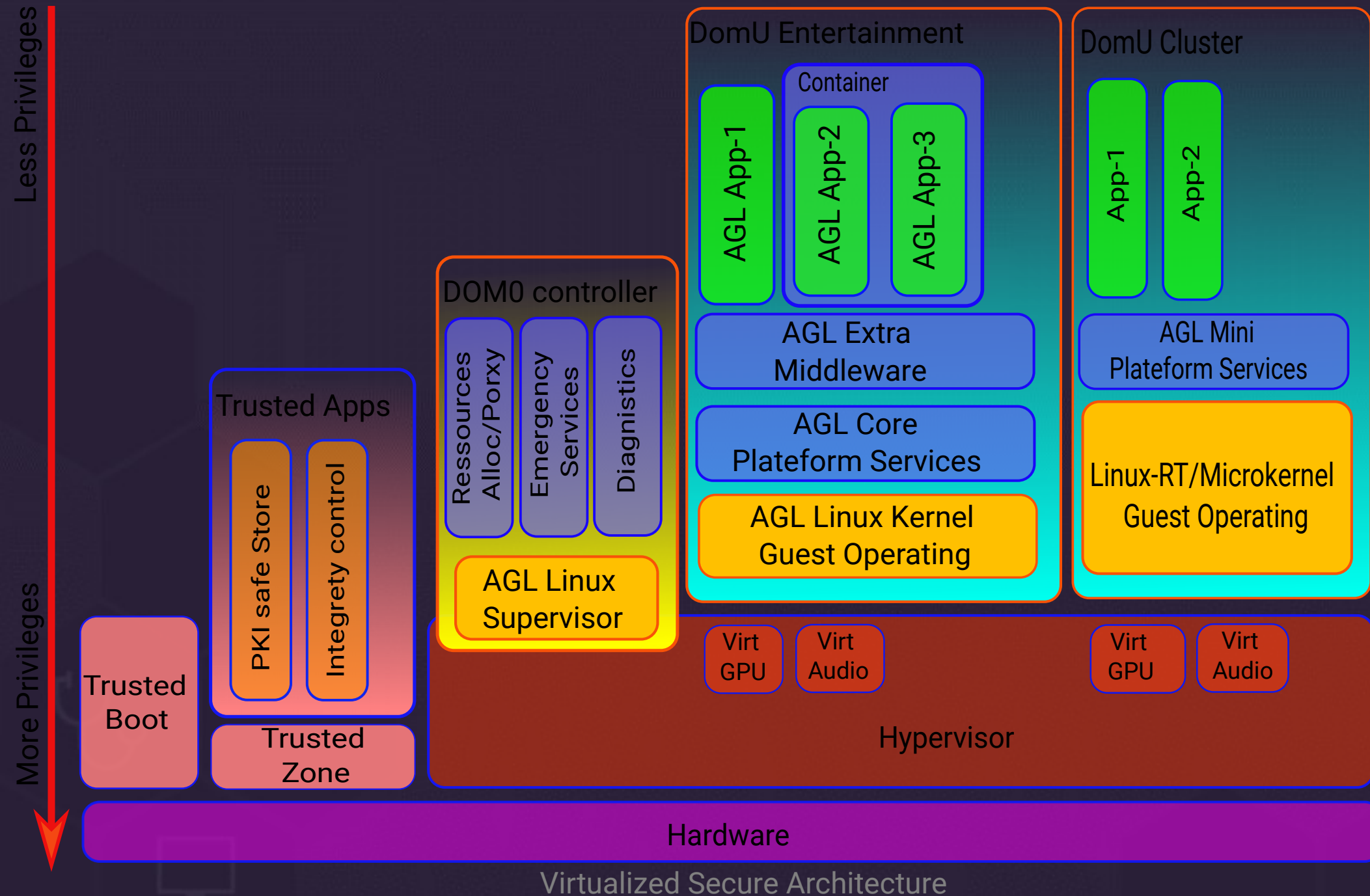
- Based on W3C widget
- Feature allow to handle AGL specificities
- Install via the AppFW



AGL2+ Distributed Architecture



AGL2++ Virtualised Architecture



Conclusion

- **Technologies are available**

- Secure boot, Secure zone
- Update over the air
- Isolation and containment
- Tools and training

- **Management is not ready**

- Still perceived as a nice to have
- Too risky to commit

- **Engineering sees security as a brake to innovation**

- Requires a serious personal investment and paradigm shift
- Complexity imposes to select a “Ready Made” solution
 - AGL, Tizen, Snappy, ...
- “Will add it later” attitude is common but a guaranteed model to failure



Questions

Container "A mixed blessing"

Easy to use

- Detach the App from the platform
- Integrated App management
- Well known

Not very secure

- Unreliable introspection
- MAC has no power on the inside of a container
- Updating the platform does not update the middleware
- Beside the Kernel each App provide its own version of the OS
- Each App restart requires a full passing of credential
- RAM and Flash footprint are uncontrollable
- Far more secured with Clear Container but not applicable to low end SoC.

Only I/O via network

- Well equipped for Rest API
- All other I/O requires driver level access or bespoke framework.



<https://www.opencontainers.org/>
<https://lwn.net/Articles/644675/>

Security Check list



Control which code you run

- Secure boot
- Integrity
- Secure update

Isolate services

- Drop root when possible
- Drop privileges

Isolate Apps

- Apps are not the OS
- Enforce – restrict access to standard API

Identity

- Enforce identity unicity
- Use available HW protection

Encryption

- Network traffic
- Local storage

Control image creation

- No debug tool in production
- No default root password
- No unrequired open port

Continuous integration

- Automate static analysis
- QA on secured image

Help developer

- Integrate security in Devel image
- Provide clear guide line
- Isolate Apps from OS
- Focus on standardised Middleware